

## Levels of Socio-Economic Development of Osmanabad District

**Dr. N. G. Mali**

Research Supervisor & Head,  
Dept. of Geography,  
Mahatma Basweshwar College, Latur

**Mr. Shivprasad Dharne**

Research Fellow  
Dept. of Geography,  
M. B. College, Latur

### Abstract:

*Development is a multidimensional phenomenon. Real development upholds the supremacy of man as a member of human community which aims at promoting an individual's welfare. To the geographer, development constraints consist of the measures adopted to deal with the anomalies in the spatial allocation of resources. Development is not merely a question of how much is produced, but what is produced and how it is distributed. The process of development has to be seen in the context of the nature of resource distribution, the level of technology and the distributive systems.*

*Mankind is facing a problem of growing disparities in socio-economic development both within and between the different geographic scales such as settlements regions and countries. These inequalities create tensions and conflicts in the society. Ameliorative measures have to be taken to minimize the disparities at all levels to the maximum extent possible. One of the basis pre-requisites for moving towards this goal is to acquire a precise knowledge of the spatial disparities in their various dimensions. This is a challenging task which eminently fits into the philosophy and methodology of geography. The geographer's findings with regard to spatial disparities in spheres of social activity or the total development and the causal factors associated therewith, surely lead him to make prescriptive recommendations for future planning.*

**Key words:** Social, Economic Transformation, Development, Causal factors

### Introduction:

Regional disparities in socio-economic development have been a myth of reality in Indian context since the British times. That exist even today in spite of implementation of a planned economy for the past 60 years. One of the main objectives of our national planning had been to narrow down regional inequalities at all levels. The task cannot be attained without identifying the comparatively laggard areas and probing into their levels of socio-economic development. In India, all plans are formulated for implementation at the block level and so it is useful to assess the levels of development on the basis of block.

### Study Region:

The district of Osmanabad is the southern most districts in Aurangabad division of Maharashtra state situated between 17°37' to 18°42' North latitudes and 75°17' to 76°47' East longitudes. The district has an area of 7484 square kilo-meters. About 7271 square kilometers area (96.79%) is known as rural area where as only 241.4 square kilometers (3.21%) area comes under urban categories.

**Objectives:** The following are the main objectives of the study:

1. Find out the regional disparities in the social development of the study area.
2. To provide the base for planners, administrators and politicians for the developmental planning.

**Database and Methodology:** Various methods have been deployed in the past to measure regional disparities with varying degrees of success. The selection of indices is of paramount significance in this respect. The indicators selected should clearly reflect the social selected should clearly reflect the social picture of the component areal units of the study area.

Considering all the facts of the study area twenty one economic and indicators have been selected in the present study which are as below:

**Social Indicators:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) Density of population per sq.km.                             | 13) Number of rural hospital centres per 50,000 population |
| 2) Percentage of urban population to the total urban population | 14) Number of medical stores per 50,000 population         |
| 3) Percentage of literacy                                       | 15) Number of post offices                                 |
| 4) Percentage of male literacy                                  | 16) Number of post offices per 50,000 population           |
| 5) Percentage of female literacy                                | 17) Number of public call centres                          |
| 6) Number of primary school per 10,000 population               | 18) Number of telephone connections per 10,000 population  |
| 7) Number of primary school per 100 sq.km.                      | 19) Number of cable connections per 10,000 population      |
| 8) Number of secondary school per 20,000 population             | 20) Number of bio-gas plants                               |
| 9) Number of secondary school per 100 sq.km.                    | 21) Number of saving groups                                |
| 10) Number of junior colleges per 50,000 population             | 22) Number of population per police station                |
| 11) Number of junior colleges per 100 sq.km.                    | 23) Number of street lamp posts                            |
| 12) Number of primary health centres per 50,000 population      | 24) Length of roads per 100 sq.km.                         |

The data regarding the indicators have been taken from the secondary sources at tahsil level. The data for the social indicators is collected for the year 2014-15. The tahsils have been awarded proportionate weights on the basis of the data of the indicators.

The lowest value of  $i$  indicator in the tahsils  $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_n$  (say in  $X_5$ ) has been awarded the score of 1. The weights of  $i$  indicator in remaining tahsils have been determined on the basis of the following formula.

$$WiX_1 = \frac{i X_1}{i X_5}$$

Where,

- |         |   |  |
|---------|---|--|
| $WiX_1$ | = | Weight of $i$ indicator in tahsil $X_1$          |
| $iX_1$  | = | Numerical value of $i$ indicator in tahsil $X_1$ |
| $iX_5$  | = | Numerical value of $i$ indicator in tahsil $X_5$ |

On the basis of the above formula, the weights of all the indicators in each tahsil have been computed and the composite scores have been obtained for all tahsils on the basis of the following formula:

$$CX_1 = W_1X_1 + W_2 X_1 + \dots + W_n X_1$$

Where,

- |        |   |                                 |
|--------|---|---------------------------------|
| $CX_1$ | = | Composite score of tahsil $X_1$ |
|--------|---|---------------------------------|

**Weights Social Indicators**

By applying the formula  $W_i X_1 = \frac{i X_1}{i X_5}$ , weights of all social indicators are calculated

**Table No. 1.1: Composite Scores of Social Indicators of Tahsils**

Sr. No.	Tahsil	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Composite Score
1	Osmanabad	2.78	9.80	1.08	1.04	1.14	1.17	2.34	1.04	2.22	1.67	1.93	19.77	3.5	15.25	1.5	6.25	1.30	14.31	1.24	89.33
2	Bhum	1.04	1.50	1.00	1.00	1.01	1.58	1.40	1.34	1.67	1.01	1.01	1.00	1.67	1.75	1.00	2.93	1.76	2.75	1.08	27.5
3	Washi	1.22	--	1.01	1.03	1.03	1.38	1.00	1.39	1.45	1.00	1.00	1.81	1.52	4.5	1.6	4.83	1.43	6.81	1.10	35.11
4	Kalamb	1.00	2.30	1.07	1.04	1.11	1.23	1.88	1.35	2.74	1.11	1.58	3.44	1.37	3.12	1.8	3.70	1.34	5.29	1.03	37.5
5	Paranda	1.27	1.51	1.00	1.00	1.01	1.59	1.31	1.16	1.39	1.27	1.41	3.09	1.32	3.68	1.7	1.50	1.37	5.09	1.01	32.68
6	Tuljapur	1.61	4.65	1.02	1.02	1.08	1.37	1.23	1.33	1.56	1.20	1.40	4.88	2.78	10.75	1.8	1.00	1.27	5.02	1.00	45.97
7	Lohara	1.07	--	1.00	1.01	1.04	1.17	1.22	1.06	1.01	1.20	1.45	1.49	1.17	3.5	1.3	1.73	2.27	4.25	1.00	27.94
8	Omerga	1.01	4.98	1.01	1.02	1.04	1.10	1.88	1.08	2.22	1.01	1.44	1.28	1.00	1.00	1.3	1.91	1.00	1.00	1.02	27.3

*Source: Compiled by the Researcher.*

### Composite Scores of Socio-Economic Development

To determine the levels of socio-economic development in the study region composite scores of economic and social indicators are combined together and total composite score for each tahsil is calculated and shown in the table no. 1.1.

The composite scores of all tahsils in the study region have been arranged in the descending order and on the basis of break in the progression of the scores of the tahsils have been grouped into five levels of socio-economic development as follows:

- i) Areas of Very High Development
- ii) Areas of High Development
- iii) Areas of Medium Development
- iv) Areas of Low Development
- v) Areas of Very Low Development
- vi)

**Table No. 1.2 : Composite Scores of Economic and Social Indicators of the Tahsils**

Sr. No.	Tahsils	Composite Score of Economic Indicators	Composite Score of Social Indicators	WiX <sub>1</sub>
1	Osmanabad	212.08	89.33	301.41
2	Bhum	69.9	27.5	97.4
3	Washi	49.22	35.11	84.33
4	Kalamb	45.9	37.5	83.4
5	Paranda	37.97	32.68	70.65
6	Tuljapur	67.56	45.97	113.53
7	Lohara	23.14	27.94	51.08
8	Omerga	87.25	27.3	114.55

*Source: Compiled by the Researcher.*

**Table No. 1.3 : Descending Order of Composite Scores of the Tahsils**

Sr. No.	Tahsils	Composite Score
1	Osmanabad	301.41
2	Omerga	114.55
3	Tuljapur	113.53
4	Bhum	97.4
5	Washi	84.33
6	Kalamb	83.4
7	Paranda	70.65
8	Lohara	51.08

*Source: Compiled by the Researcher.*

To distinguish the role of the indicators operating behind the existing status of socio-economic development of the tahsils, the weights of all the indicators have been arranged in descending order and Q1 has been determined. The weights of the indicators in the tahsils above Q1 have been treated as dominant ones responsible for the existing status of socio-economic development.

### Conclusions:

From the above discussion, it is apparent that the disparities in social development are very marked within the district. This situation is not conducive to proper development of the district. A majority of tahsils (Bhum, Washi, Lohara and Paranda) require immediate attention.

Spatial analysis of the levels of social development clearly indicates that only 14 percent area of the study region comes under relatively very high development area, 32.30 percent area comes

under relatively high development area, 29.59 percent area comes under medium development area, 19.28 percent area comes under low development area and 4.83 percent area comes under very low development area. Area under low socio-economic development is about 25 percent. To devoid the spatial disparity in the socio-economic development special attention of govt. and non-govt. agencies is essential. As the economy of the region has agrarian base priority in developmental process should be given to agricultural sector through modern measures. Social development automatically takes place in association with the economic development.

**References:**

1. Amborse, P. (1969): "Analytical Human Geography", Longman, London, PP. 140-142.
2. Dehsmukh, P.W. (1979): "The Location of Service Activities – a study of Central Places in Upper Krishna Valley", (Published, Ph.D. Thesis), AjabPustakalaya, Kolhapur, PP. 44-64.
3. Tripathi, R.S. and Misra, K.P. (1994): "Regional Disparities in Socio-Economic Development of Basti District (U.P.)", Published in Environmental Resources: the Crisis of Development edited by Mathur, H.S., RBSA Publishers, Jaipur, PP. 193-198.
4. Government of Maharashtra (2001-2015) Socio-Economic Review and Statistical Abstracts of Osmanabad District.

